

## Volunteer Needed for Biological Studies in Interior Alaska

We are looking for a volunteer to assist with several biological field studies on Kanuti National Wildlife Refuge in north-central Alaska. The studies are wide-ranging, and include breeding landbird surveys, phenology studies of locally common plants, and camera-trap studies of mammals. The two-person crew (i.e., refuge biologist and volunteer) will conduct field work out of a remote USFWS cabin on the Kanuti River. The cabin has many amenities, including: solar electricity, propane stove, refrigerator, and freezer. Access within the study areas is by motorized boat, canoe, and hiking. The area is typical of the boreal forest biome with rivers, many wetlands, muskeg, tundra, mixed forest, burn scars, etc. In addition to the vibrant bird life there, the full complement of boreal mammals occurs, including: moose, black and brown bears, wolf, red fox, lynx, river otter, mink, marten, porcupine, beaver, etc.

This field assistant position is open to **volunteers only**. Continuous fieldwork will run ideally from approximately April 15 through July 15, 2014. The refuge biologist will be heading out in mid-April but understands that potential student applicants likely cannot begin until after spring semester ends. Arrangements could possibly be made to bring a student out to the site later in May (by floatplane), after mandatory federal safety trainings (first aid/CPR, aircraft, watercraft, bear, firearms, etc.) have been completed. Potential candidates should be mature and self-motivated, and work well in a small crew in a remote setting at varying times of the day (e.g., dawn bird surveys start at 03:00 in Alaska). Preference will be given to those with demonstrated experience in bird/plant/mammal surveys/research and remote field work (northern preferred). Candidates should expect challenging environmental conditions (cold, heat, rain, insect harassment), hiking long distances over uneven terrain with a moderately sized daypack, considerable canoeing, intermittent spike camping, potential bear encounters, and early morning starts (2–3 times per 5–6 work days). Kanuti NWR will cover round-trip transportation costs from Fairbanks to the Refuge, any travel within the Refuge, provisions while in the field, as well as some field gear (e.g., binoculars).

**If interested, please contact Chris Harwood: email: [christopher\\_harwood@fws.gov](mailto:christopher_harwood@fws.gov); phone: 907-455-1836.** Please include resume with references, dates available to start and end, and any prior applicable safety training. **Please reply by February 21, 2014.**

